Increase in Air Fare

450. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:

SHRI ISH DUTT YADAV:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a proposal is lying pending with Government to hike air fares by over ten per cent;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have received any demand from the Air Passengers Association of India that Indian Airlines should drop its proposal to hike air fares by over ten per cent immediately; and

(d) if so, what is Government's stand with regard thereto?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Indian Airlines has no proposal to increase its fares at present.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Invitation to foreign journalists by Department of Tourism

451. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to invite foreign journalists to remove the apprehension among foreign tourists regarding law ad order in India; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) As a part of its continuing scheme the Department of Tourism invites foreign journalists, travel writers, photographers and other media personnel on familiarisation tours of different tourist places in the country. The articles published by the travel writers/journalists on their return not only give exposure to India's varied tourist attractions and also offset adverse publicity thereby dispelling apprehension in foreign tourists to plan their visits to India.

Development of Tourism in Andhra Pradesh

452. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that South India particularly Andhra Pradesh is neglected in Tourism;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government are contemplating to develop tourism in south and particularly in Andhra Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) The following travel circuits/destinations have been identified for intensive development in South India, including Andhra Pradesh:—

(i) Madras-Mammallapuram - Pondicherry;

(ii) Hyderabad-Nagarjunasagar- Tirupati;

(iii) Muttukadu beach;

(iv) Bekal-beach.

Fare hike from Calcutta to Sharjah

453 SHRI ARANGIL SREEDHARAN: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that air fare from Calicut to Sharjah has been hiked twice during te recent months;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;